TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1991 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the holiday week ended November 30 totaled 268,625, down 22.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1990 and down 22.6 percent from the preceding week, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads and 97 percent of rail intermodal loadings.

Carloadings originated were down 30.3 percent in the East and down 14.0 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1990 week, loadings of coal decreased by 32,083 cars (23.7 percent), loadings of chemicals fell by 6,334 cars (20.8 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment loadings decreased 4,694 cars (27.9 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 48 weeks of 1991 totaled 15,430,343, a decline of 4.9 percent from the comparable period of 1990.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- not included in the carloadings -- totaled 106,088 trailers and containers for the week ended November 30, down 17.9 percent from 1990.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 48 weeks of 1991 was 5,767,123 trailers and containers, 0.4 percent above the 1990 comparable total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended November 30 totaled 16.6 billion, down 22.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1990. Cumulative volume for the first 48 weeks of 1991 was an estimated 944.0 billion ton-miles, down 1.8 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1991

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1991	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1990	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	22,709	26,632	-14.7 %	29,491	-23.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,127	2,251	-5.5	2,208	-3.7
Metallic Ores	14,499	14,735	-1.6	17,609	-17.7
Coal	103,546	135,629	-23.7	141,030	-26.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	8,128	14,551	-44.1	12,384	-34.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	7,249	8,992	-19.4	7,353	-1.4
Grain Mill Products	8,841	10,111	-12.6	9,902	-10.7
Food & Kindred Products	7,740	9,663	-19.9	9,335	-17.1
Primary Forest Products	6,779	10,149	-33.2	9,893	-31.5
Lumber & Wood Products	4,632	5,782	-19.9	5,913	-21.7
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,139	11,332	-10.5	10,101	.4
Chemicals	24,139	30,473	-20.8	28,561	-15.5
Petroleum Products	3,985	5,408	-26.3	5,206	-23.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	6,557	9,685	-32.3	8,537	-23.2
Coke	5,120	6,037	-15.2	5,415	-5.4
Metals & Products	8,944	11,990	-25.4	9,899	-9.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	12,155	16,849	-27.9	17,875	-32.0
Waste & Scrap Materials	6,315	8,866	-28.8	8,769	-28.0
All Other Carloads	5,021	8,907	-43.6	7,410	-32.2
Total	**268,625**	**348,042**	**-22.8 %**	**346,891**	**-22.6 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1991 1991	1990	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 48 WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1991 1991	1990	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**268,625**	**348,042**	**-22.8 %**	**15,430,343**	**16,224,328**	**-4.9 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	53,475	72,218	-26.0	2,963,407	3,195,783	-7.3
Containers	52,613	57,026	-7.7	2,803,716	2,547,928	10.0
Total	**106,088**	**129,244**	**-17.9**	**5,767,123**	**5,743,711**	**.4**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**16.6**	**21.5**	**-22.8 %**	**944.0**	**960.9**	**-1.8 %**

NOTE: Figures for Week 48 of 1991 include the Thanksgiving holiday whereas the corresponding week in 1990 did not.

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